

2020-2021 SMS ENCORE COURSE SELECTION

Procedures and Guidelines

What is an encore class? Encore Classes are the elective classes that you select based upon your interests. Please find within this document the descriptions of the available courses. According to the Middle School Student Progression Plan, all students will take Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies Core Classes. The level of each of these classes is dependent upon student needs.

How many encore classes can I take? You can take two* encore classes. One of those encore classes must be Physical Education (PE) or PE with Dance Emphasis unless you fill out a PE Waiver. If you complete a PE Waiver and if there is available space in other encore classes, then you do not have to take PE.

How do I choose my encore classes? Complete and submit the enclosed Encore Preference Form accurately and as soon as possible. **Please note this is a REQUEST form only. Choices are not guaranteed. Preference will be given to the forms that are submitted by April 24.**

The steps you and your parent/guardian must follow to complete your request for encore classes are:

- Step 1: Review your encore options by looking at the choice list and the course descriptions.
- Step 2: Fill in your Name, Student ID ("N" Number), and current Elementary School.
- Step 3: **If you plan on taking PE, then PE must be your first or second choice. If you are not taking PE, you need a PE Waiver which can be found on the last page of this document.**
- Step 4: **Make 5 selections** on the preference form from the ENCORE categories by ranking them in order from 1(your first choice) to 5 (your last choice). You can make more than 5 selections but you have to make at least 5 selections.
- Step 5: **Your parent must sign the preference form.** Also, if you **do not want to have PE** in the next school year, your parent must **complete and sign the PE Waiver.**
- Step 6: **Write down any additional scheduling requests.**
- Step 7: Submit your preferences to Sarasota Middle School:
 - Follow the link below to enter your preferences and upload your documents:
<https://tinyurl.com/6th-Grade-Encore-Preference>
 - **After clicking the link, type in your student "n number" followed by sarasotacountyschools.net and password. For example, if your "n number" is n123456 type in "n123456@sarasotacountyschools.net" and enter your password.**
 - Complete the online form by filling in required information.
 - **Upload a scanned .pdf (preferred) or picture file of the signed completed paper copy and PE Waiver, if necessary.**

Have questions? E-Mail: SMSEncoreForm@sarasotacountyschools.net

*Please note that if it is determined that you need additional support in a Core Class (Language Arts, Math, Science, or Social Studies), one or more of your encore periods may be used to provide this support.

Sarasota Middle School Encore Course Descriptions

Physical Education Department Courses

Physical Education - Students will participate in team/individual activities which promote athletic skills and personal fitness.

Physical Education with Dance Emphasis - This high-energy course combines elements of dance, cheer, and traditional Physical Education sports. Students will learn and develop skills and combinations from each of these three disciplines. Throughout the course, students will learn, create, and perform choreographed dance routines to popular songs.

Arts, Humanities, and Foreign Language Courses

Art - An exploratory, hands-on adventure with emphasis on real life drawing, color theory applied to realistic and abstract paintings, perspective studies and architectural renderings, and much, much more! Master artists and their works will be introduced and analyzed along with both college and career opportunities in the visual arts.

Creative Writing - In this course, students can express themselves through fun and exciting writing projects. Students will use their imaginations to become active characters in their own stories to further develop their written voice using a variety of literary forms.

Spanish – Learn basic language skills including listening, reading, writing, and speaking. The culture and history of Spanish speaking countries will be introduced. No prior Spanish Language experience required. Sixth graders take beginning, seventh takes intermediate, and 8th grade takes **Spanish 1 for high school credit**. FSA Levels are considered for placement.

Speech – This course will help students become effective public speakers. Students will play games, participate in cooperative learning activities, and engage in coaching sessions as they learn the techniques of public speaking, speech writing, and analyzing presentations. **Speech is for a high school credit and ONLY available for 8th Grade Students**. FSA Levels are considered for placement.

Student Leadership (Peer Counseling) - The purpose of Peer Counseling is to develop leadership skills in order to support the SMS student body. This is done by developing self-awareness and the awareness of others through learning effective communication skills, peer facilitating, and conflict resolution through fun, engaging activities.

Music and Performing Arts Courses

Band – Learn to play a band instrument. Select from flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba and percussion. All students are welcome in Beginning Band. Intermediate and Advanced classes require teacher permission.

Chorus – Learn ensemble and solo singing and vocal performance skills. Includes the study of music history and notation. All students are welcome in beginning chorus. Intermediate/Advanced choruses require teacher permission. Students in chorus can audition for the select Honor Choir.

Drama - Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of theatre arts. Students will use various creative drama techniques to build confidence and trust, stimulate imagination, movement, and role-play. This will be accomplished through participation in theatre games and activities. Students will also exhibit and reinforce their skills through individual and group presentations, performances, script and journal writing.

Guitar – Learn to play the guitar including how to read music notation and tablature. All students are welcome in beginning guitar. Intermediate and Advanced Guitar require teacher permission.

Orchestra – Learn to play an orchestral instrument such as violin, viola, cello, or bass violin as a member of a symphony. All students are welcome in orchestra. Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra requires teacher permission.

Career and Technology Education (CTE) Courses

Computer Applications/ Information Technology – These paired, semester courses will allow students to learn the basics of computer hardware and software concepts including operating systems, file management, common applications, digital citizenship and safe computing, the basics of Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and introduction to coding with students creating a website using HTML and CSS. Students will prepare for the IC3 GS5 Key Applications digital tool certification. This course is recommended for all sixth-grade students, but can be taken at any grade level. ***This course is required if you want to take Computer Business Applications TWO, a class that gives you the opportunity to work on the SMS Morning News Program and the School Yearbook. This course cannot be repeated.***

Computer Applications TWO – Delve deeper into the various Microsoft Software Applications including Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook, Teams, OneNote and other applications. This class will apply these skills in ***producing segments for the SMS Morning News show*** including news research, copy writing, and anchoring while learning how to operate the camera equipment and computer board. Also, students in these classes will ***work on the school yearbook. Successful completion of Computer Applications required. This course may be repeated.***

Coding – Are you a gamer? Learn how to program games beyond the basics of block-based code in Javascript and Python with online learning platforms. This class provides the foundational knowledge and skills related to computer coding and software development. ***SPARK certification OR Computer Applications and Information Technology strongly recommended prior to taking this course. This course cannot be repeated and is available to 6th, 7th, and 8th graders.***

Emerging Technology – Average salary of \$74,862 for Information Technology (IT) professionals with advanced certifications sound good to you? This course explores careers in IT with the knowledge of Internet connection methods, cloud computing, mobile devices, software development, databases, Internet security, and effective communication using social networking tools. You will learn business soft skills along with Microsoft Software Applications. Students will research new technologies for a capstone project in topics such as AI (artificial intelligence), VR (virtual reality), etc. ***ETB is for high school credit and students will take a high school level industry certification.*** This class can be taken by 7th and 8th graders. Placement for this course is based on FSA Levels and prior CTE classes. Seventh grade students require a CTE (technology) teacher's signature.

Fun Introduction to Digital Design (Fundamentals of A/V, Print Tech) – This is an entry level **Technology-Based Art Course** designed to provide instruction in basic computing, electronic presentation, and business applications skills with an emphasis on Digital Design careers. Students will explore the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications of digital imaging to create original work utilizing ADOBE Creative Cloud.

Introduction to Print Arts & Design (Intro A/V & Communication) - This is a second level **Technology-Based Art Course** designed to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. Student work will be Digital Design Project based. In addition to ***helping create the School Yearbook***, students will explore ADOBE Creative Cloud programs while developing their technology literacy. ***Successful completion of Fundamentals of A/V Print Tech or CTE teacher recommendation required.***

STEM - Designed to give students an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills related to the area of STEM Occupations. Students receive initial exposure to the skills and attitudes associated with occupations in a diverse range of careers, and will learn to gather data through research, including a required STEM Project.

Fundamentals of Manufacturing Technology (FMT) – Students are engaged in various computer simulations, robotics programming, 3D printing, and participating in engineering projects. Utilizing the Engineering Design Process, students apply their own knowledge by designing under constraints and using multiple resources to formulate solutions.

SMS Technology Student Association (SMS TSA) – Students participate in multiple Career Technology Education (CTE) related challenges in a competitive environment designed to prepare them for future employment in an increasingly technology-dependent workplace. Participation requires membership in the SMS TSA Student Organization, Satisfactory completion of FMT, and Teacher/Advisor approval. For more information see: www.tsaweb.org and www.smstsachapter.weebly.com.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY,
 FLORIDA SARASOTA MIDDLE SCHOOL
 4826 ASHTON ROAD, SARASOTA, FL 34233
 PHONE (941) 361-6464 FAX (941) 361-6798

2020-2021 SMS ENCORE SELECTION FOR GRADE 5 INTO 6

Instructions: Complete form and return to Sarasota Middle School (SMS) by entering choices into the Online Microsoft form found on the [Sarasota Middle School website](http://www.sarasotamiddle.com). Preference will be given to the forms that are submitted by April 24. If you have any questions, you may e-mail SMSEncoreForm@sarasotacounty.com.

Student Name (Last, First) _____ Student No. (N#) _____
 Current School _____

ALL ELECTIVE COURSES ARE FULL YEAR COURSES	
Rank elective selections in order of preference with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Select 5	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (must select as 1st or 2nd choice if PE Waiver not complete)	
	Physical Education (PE)
	Physical Education (PE) With Dance Emphasis
FINE ARTS AND HUMANITIES ENCORE CHOICES	
	Art
	Creative Writing
	Spanish (Taken Spanish Before? Check One <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No)
	Student Leadership (Peer Counseling)
MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS	
	Band Instrument Preference _____
	Chorus
	Drama/Theater
	Guitar
	Orchestra Instrument Preference _____
TECHNOLOGY ENCORE CHOICES	
	Coding Fundamentals
	Computer Applications/Information Technology
	Fun Intro to Digital Design
	STEM
	Fundamentals of Manufacturing Technology (includes robotics and engineering design)
	Technology Student Association

Additional Scheduling Requests _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print) and Signature _____ Date _____ Parent Email _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Work _____

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR PE WAIVER. MUST BE COMPLETE IF STUDENT DOES NOT WANT PE.

TEACHER USE ONLY: Date returned _____ PE Waiver Complete Yes No

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
1960 LANDINGS BOULEVARD
SARASOTA, FL 34231

MIDDLE SCHOOL PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER

Instructions: Parents/Guardians who want to request a waiver for their child from the state Physical Education requirement must check the reason below, sign the form, and return it to the child's school. For questions regarding this form, contact your child's school.

State Statute 1003.455 requires the equivalent of one class period per day of physical education for one semester of each year for students in grades 6, 7, and 8. There are exceptions to this requirement. A student's performance on assessments and class work may require student enrollment in remedial or intervention courses instead of Physical Education.

Student Name _____
Last First Middle

Team _____ Grade _____

School Name _____

As the Parent/Guardian of _____, _____
Student Name DOB

I hereby request to release my child from the Physical Education requirement for the 20____-20____ school year due to the reason selected below:

- I am requesting that my child enroll in another course from among those offered as options by the school during their Encore elective schedule.
- My child participates in physical activities outside of the school day which are equal to or in excess of the mandated requirements.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print) Parent/Guardian Signature Date